AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for certifying electronic voice or multimedia messages sent from a caller CPE to a callee CPE, comprising the steps of:

receiving at the callee CPE a voice or multimedia message comprising a stream of digitized information packets from the caller CPE; the information packets being readable by the callee CPE;

compiling said stream of digitized information packets into a mail message; and attaching an electronic signature to said mail message to indicate that a message recipient received said mail message.

 (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: sending said mail message with said electronic signature to a calling party who sent said digitized information packets; and

sending a certificate to said calling party who sent said digitized information packets certifying the identity of said recipient who received said mail message.

- 3. (original) The method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of: generating said certificate; and sending said certificate from a certification provider to said message recipient.
- 4. (original) The method according to claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

sending said mail message with said electronic signature and said certificate from said party who sent said digitized information packets to a judge; and judging the authenticity of said mail message.

- (original) The method according to claim 4, further comprising the step of:
 verifying said certificate is authentic by using a cryptography key of said certification
 provider.
- 6. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of:

verifying said electronic signature is authentic by using a cryptography key contained in said certificate.

- 7. (original) The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of: prompting said party who sent said digitized information packets to select an option including leaving a certified mail message.
- 8. (original) The method according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of:
 verifying said certificate by said party who sent said digitized information packets; and
 verifying said electronic signature of said recipient by said party who sent said digitized
 information packets.
- 9. (original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said electronic signature is cryptography key of said recipient.
- 10. (currently amended) A method for certifying electronic messages in a broadband communication system, comprising the steps of:

attaching <u>by a recipient</u> an electronic signature including a cryptography key to a voice mail message comprising a compiled string of digitized voice information packets to indicate that a <u>the</u> recipient received said mail message;

sending said voice mail message with said electronic signature <u>from the recipient</u> to a calling party who sent said digitized information packets; and

sending a certificate to said calling party who sent said digitized information packets certifying the identity of said recipient who received said voice mail message.

11. (currently amended) A broadband voicemail or multimedia communication system, comprising:

a customer premises equipment system that receives a message comprising a stream of digital voice or multimedia communication information packets; packages a the stream of digital voice or multimedia communication information packets into a single mail message, adds a user electronic signature to said single mail message, and sends said single mail message along with a certificate to another location for certifying a the message was received by the customer premises equipment.

- 12. (original) The system according to claim 11, further comprising:
 a certifying system that generates said certificate for certifying mail transmitted in the broadband communication system.
- 13. (original) The system according to claim 12, further comprising:
 a judging system that determines the authenticity of said certificate and said certified mail.

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- 14. (original) The system according to claim 11, wherein said electronic signature is a cryptography key.
- 15. (original) The system according to claim 14, wherein said another location is a caller's customer premises equipment system.
- 16. (original) The system according to claim 14, wherein said another location is a system server.
- 17. (original) The system according to claim 12, wherein said certifying system includes a server.
- 18. (original) The system according to claim 13, wherein said judging system includes a server.

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- 21. (previously presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein said stream of digital voice or multimedia communication information packets are generated during a communication session that originates from an off network communication device.
- 22. (previously presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said voice or multimedia message comprising a stream of digitized information packets are generated during a communication session that originates from an off network communication device.
- 23. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of compiling said digitized voice or multimedia information packets includes removing headers from said packets.

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24. (previously presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the customer premises equipment removes headers from the information packets before packaging them.